

ERATIONS GROUP FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

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C O N F I D E N T I A L 140750Z NOV 85 STAFF

CITE FBIS/GULF 26579

TO: FBIS.

SUBJECT: BUREAU RELOCATION

REFS: A. FBIS 20617
B. FBIS/GULF 26530
C. DC/AS LOGNOTE OF 22 OCT 85

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1. MY REF B RESPONSE APPEARS TO REQUIRE FURTHER ELABORATION IN LIGHT OF REF C. CONTRARY TO FBO'S BELIEF, THE ASSESSMENT HERE IS THAT THE PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE NEW EMBASSY BUILDING SITE IS NOT UNAVAILABLE. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT ON THE MARKET AT THE MOMENT. THE EMBASSY HAS REASON TO HOPE THAT IT WILL BE SOLD IN THE FUTURE AND, AS MENTIONED, THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN GIVEN RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL WHEN IT IS PUT UP FOR SALE. BUREAUCRATIC INERTIA AT THE GOB FOREIGN MINISTRY SEEMS LIKELY TO PREVENT ANYTHING FROM HAPPENING IN THE NEAR FUTURE. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO PUSH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFF ITS INERTIA NOW JUST TO PROVE THAT POINT TO FBO.

2. READING BETWEEN THE LINES OF REF C SUGGESTS THAT FBO WILL RESIST THE USE OF STATE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE ADDITIONAL LAND, AND MY CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR CONFIRMS THAT POINT. IF FBIS WANTS THE PROPERTY, WE WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO PAY FOR IT OURSELVES.

3. THE WAY THINGS STAND, I SEE NO NEED TO RUSH A DECISION WITHIN FBIS. RECONSIDERATION OF THE NATURE AND LEVEL OF THE SECURITY THREAT, THE BUREAU'S DEFENSIVE POSTURE, THE NECESSITY OR ADVISIBILITY OF RELOCATION, AND THE OPTIONS FOR DOING SO WOULD BE A WOXY AGENDA FOR A SENIOR MANAGEMENT VISIT TO GF.

4. DECL OADR DRV COL 14-82 BY
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